

In the Claims

Brief Listing of Status of Claims

Claims 16, 19 and 20 are currently amended.

Claim 17 was previously presented.

Claim 18 is an original claim.

Claims 1-15 and 21-90 are canceled.

Complete Listing of Status of Claims

Claims 1-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) A method of screening a patient for breast cancer, the method comprising:

a) [performing an amplification technique on] assaying for the presence of human papillomavirus in a sample from a biopsy taken from a patient ~~wherein said technique is designed to selectively amplify a first and second molecular marker for breast cancer,~~
wherein said assaying comprises amplifying human papillomavirus gene sequences by use of a pair of primers to produce an amplified product, and probing said amplified product for the presence of first molecular marker is HPV 16 and a second human

~~papillomavirus is amplified by use of a first and second primer, wherein said first primer is~~
~~SEQ ID NO: 1, and~~

~~wherein said second molecular marker is selected from the group consisting of~~
HPV18, HPV31, HPV 33, HPV35, HPV45, HPV58,

wherein said pair of primers is SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 2, and

wherein presence of HPV 16 and said second human papillomavirus is indicative of
breast cancer in said patient.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the patient is a human, and wherein the cancer is in any stage of development.

Claim 18 (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the biopsy is obtained by performing the technique of ductal lavage on a breast of a patient.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein said amplifying
is achieved by use of the amplification technique is polymerase chain reaction amplification.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein said amplifying
is achieved by use of the amplification technique is reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction amplification.

Claims 21-90 (Canceled).